



THE CHIEF PLEAS OF SARK

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Progress update on Making La Coupée safer for Visitors and the Community of Sark

SARK, Friday 24 April 2026 — At the end of the second week, the stabilisation works at La Coupée are making good progress. At this rate, this beauty spot and essential transport route for Sark should be re-opened fully at the end of next week as planned.

The concrete underpinning has been completed in Area W3 as has the installation of the erosion-protection mesh. The other areas on the West (Guernsey) side are well on their way to completion on schedule.

Only a handful of the rock anchors out of hundreds are left to be drilled and cemented in place. Then the mesh can be installed as planned on the East (Jersey) side.

La Coupée is the isthmus connecting Big Sark and Little Sark and the only way to get from one to the other. It's also a renowned visitor attraction with beautiful views over the seas to Guernsey and Jersey as well as being a unique geological feature. It needs regular maintenance as the geology is prone to erosion and occasional rockfall.

This year's programme of works is a major investment in the future of La Coupée which will benefit islanders and visitors alike. The works are scheduled to run for approximately three weeks, from Monday 13 April to Friday 1 May.

Access Arrangements During the Works

To ensure the works can be carried out safely and to a high standard, La Coupée will be closed during the day, apart from scheduled crossing times and emergency services until Friday 1 May. Access from Grand Grève is also closed and Notices to Mariners for the benefit of visiting boatowners has been published.

The Douzaine has been keeping the community informed of these planned works since 2025. Their cooperation and understanding is much appreciated and will help ensure the improvements are completed efficiently and successfully.



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Quotes

Mike Locke, Chair of the Douzaine, said:

“Thanks to the sunny and dry weather, the team has been able to keep well to schedule with thankfully, few hold-ups. The Sark team have worked tirelessly to support the rope-technicians keeping them well supplied with shuttering, concrete and anything else that’s needed. We’re very grateful to them for their efforts which have been very important in achieving this rapid progress.”

Geomarine said:

“Works on the West (Guernsey) side have progressed very well. Area W3 has been completed with the protective mesh in place over the concrete. In the other areas, the last remaining concrete should be poured within the next day or so. The strong easterly/north-easterly winds have meant the occasional pause in the work in the East (Jersey) side but the forecast looks good for the final rock anchors and large-scale mesh installation over the coming days.”

Background

- Works follow emergency interventions completed in February 2025.
- Surveys and inspections by Geomarine informed the scope and design of the stabilisation programme.
- Public notices [2026 Works at La Coupée v2 30 Mar 26.pdf](#)
[Stabilising La Coupée Dec 25.pdf](#)
- The project forms part of a wider, proactive approach to maintaining critical island infrastructure.

About Chief Pleas and the Douzaine

The Chief Pleas of Sark is the government of the Island of Sark, one of three independent legislatures comprising the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

- <https://sarkgov.co.uk/>

The Douzaine is the Committee of Chief Pleas with responsibility for Public Works on Sark including the maintenance of Public Roads.

- <https://sarkgov.co.uk/douzaine-updates>



THE DOUZAINE

About Geomarine

Geomarine is a leading provider of civil engineering, marine construction and geotechnical services. Established in 1998 in Guernsey, Geomarine now provides specialist services throughout the Channel Islands.

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Drone footage and photography is available to the media on request.



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From left to right:

- Area W2 with concrete poured into wooden shuttering former
- Area W3 concrete poured and set, shuttering former removed, anti-erosion mesh installed
- Area W5 concrete poured into shuttering former
- Above area W5 mesh installed temporarily to protect workforce while drilling



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Detail of former with concrete setting inside shuttering former at area W2